

HISTORIC BRASS SOCIETY JOURNAL
VOLUME 17 2005

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COVER: Detail of the musicians from Israhel van Meckenem, *Dance of Herodias* (ca. 1500).
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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This issue of the *Historic Brass Society* Journal witnesses the introduction of a new feature, the "Brass Research Chronicle." Your Editorial Board decided on this course of action after evaluating some impressively researched articles that are different from most submissions we receive in that they contain much valuable information of interest to our readers, though they intentionally do not develop a thesis or present an argument in the conventional sense. Albert R. Rice's article, "Curtis Janssen and a Selection of Outstanding Brasses at the Fiske Museum, The Claremont Colleges, California," represents the maiden voyage for our Research Chronicle.

The inspiration for this new feature is the *RMA Research Chronicle*, established by the Royal Musical Association in 1961. According to this publication's website, it "is unique among English-language publications in its emphasis on the raw materials of musicologists, indexes, catalogues, inventories, etc." While adhering to these same objectives, our own Research Chronicle will appear as a department of the *Journal*, rather than a separate publication.

As always, we encourage our members to send us your best work—archival studies and catalogues as well as "traditional" articles. All submissions, of course, will be subjected to our customary editorial scrutiny.

Stewart Carter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There have been a number of significant developments for the Historic Brass Society this year and it is reassuring that we have continued to engage in so many fascinating areas. Thanks to the untiring efforts of our webmaster Steve Lundahl, our website has taken on an entirely new look and function. It has opened a new range of possibilities for communication and publication, and offers a useful forum for ideas in the brass field. I hope you will explore the manifold possibilities of the new website soon, if you have not already done so. Many thanks to Steve. Beginning with the 2006 issue, the HBS Newsletter will be available to members electronically on our new website. The change will allow us to offer announcements, reports, and news in a much more timely manner than is possible in the traditional print medium. This is just one of the many possibilities the new site will offer our membership.

Our events have been stimulating and varied. The Twenty-first Early Brass Festival (8-10 July 2005) was once again in the Northeastern United States, and while we have had better weather for past festivals (actually, Noah and his ark had better weather), the

event was still fantastic, with a wide range of papers and wonderful performances. Special thanks must go to Michael O'Connor, who organized the event and developed the idea of a nineteenth-century theme. The single-theme EBF was another first for the HBS.

Next year's EBF in Northfield, Minnesota (27 July-1 August 2006) will also be a first on many levels. It will be the first EBF to be held in that part of the country, and will expand beyond the usual weekend time frame. There will be a Brass Band Festival connected with the event, and it will be our first joint meeting with The Society for the Investigation of Band Music (Internationale Gesellschaft zur Erforschung und Förderung der Blasmusik = IGEB), an important music organization based in Graz, Austria. Paul Niemisto of St. Olaf College in Northfield will spearhead the event.

Our most immediate European event will be the upcoming Cornett and Sackbut Conference and Competition in Toulouse, France, 20-23 April 2006. Jean-Pierre Canihac is developing a wide range of concerts and activities with many of the leading cornett and trombone players in our field. Further down the pike, Sabine Klaus is laying plans for the Twenty-third Annual Early Brass Festival, which will be held in Spartanburg, South Carolina, in 2007, where, among other activities, we'll have the chance to view many wonderful and rare brass wind instruments from the Joe and Joella Utley Collection. Finally, Benny Sluchin is in the initial stages of planning another HBS conference at the Cité de la Musique in Paris, in 2007 or possibly 2008.

The conference "Early Twentieth-Century Brass Idioms: Art, Jazz, and Other Popular Traditions," held 4-5 November 2005 and co-sponsored by the Institute of Early Jazz Studies at Rutgers University, was also a landmark. To my knowledge it was the first academic forum devoted to the relationship between early jazz, popular, and "mainstream" brass idioms. Jazz scholarship may be one of the most important and invigorating new research agendas in the early brass field. That this conference occurred in 2005, the same year we all witnessed the awful disaster in New Orleans, was an irony not unnoticed. I sincerely hope to see a rebuilding of that most musical of American cities.

The members of our Board and Executive Committee and Editorial Board have worked tirelessly throughout this past year as they always do. In particular, we owe Stew Carter, Mike O'Connor, Benny Sluchin, Trevor Herbert, Keith Polk, John Benoit, Flora Newberry, Tom Reicher, Sabine Klaus, Paul Niemisto, and Charlotte Leonard a special thanks for their tireless efforts. I think it important to remind the membership once again that the HBS is completely a volunteer organization. The fact that no one gets paid a penny means that our activities sometimes proceed at a slightly slower pace than we might otherwise want. Please keep this in mind should you experience a slight bump in the road along the way. Best wishes to all.

Jeffrey Nussbaum

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HISTORIC BRASS SOCIETY

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2005
CHRISTOPHER MONK AWARD

Presented by
The Historic Brass Society

to
Gunther Schuller

In his 80th year, for his life-long contributions to the brass field through his outstanding compositions, teaching, horn playing, and, in particular, his ground-breaking research in early jazz scholarship, bringing greater understanding of the great brass players in jazz with special attention to the music of Louis Armstrong.

Established in 1995, the Christopher Monk Award is presented annually by the Historic Brass Society to a scholar, performer, teacher, or instrument maker, who has made significant and life-long contributions to the early brass field.

Past recipients:

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